## PENDING CLAIMS AS AMENDED

1-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Presently Presented) A method for performing handoff in a communication system, the method comprising:

receiving, by a subscriber station, pilot signals and reverse link power control commands from one or more base stations;

selecting a first base station for transmission of forward link data to the subscriber station based, at least in part, on energy of the pilot signals received from the one or more base stations; and

performing a handoff to the first base station if signals transmitted by the subscriber station are received by the first base station with sufficient energy based in part on history of the reverse link power control commands received from the first base station.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 further comprising:

storing information corresponding to the reverse link power control commands received from the one or more base stations.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40 further comprising:

determining whether it is necessary to perform the handoff to the first base station; and

if it is necessary to perform the handoff and if the signals transmitted by the subscriber station are received by the first base station with sufficient energy, permitting the handoff to the first base station.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42 further comprising:

if the signals transmit by the subscriber station are not received by the first base station with sufficient energy, inhibiting the handoff to the first base station.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43 wherein the inhibiting comprises:

selecting an alternative base station for transmission of forward link data to the subscriber station.

45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42 further comprising:

if it is not necessary to perform the handoff, determining whether a base station currently being used for transmission of forward link data to the subscriber station receives signals from the subscriber station with sufficient energy; and

if the base station currently being used does not receive signals from the subscriber station with sufficient energy, performing a handoff to an alternative base station.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein the performing the handoff to the alternative base station comprises:

selecting the alternative base station based on reverse link power control commands received from the alternative base station indicating that signals transmitted by the subscriber station are received by the alternative base station with sufficient energy.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42 wherein the permitting the handoff to the first base station comprises:

transmitting, by the subscriber station, a message indicating identity of the first base station.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47 wherein the message further indicates a requested rate to transmit to the subscriber station.

49. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a receiver to receive pilot signals and reverse link power control commands from one or more base stations; and

a processor to select a first base station for transmission of forward link data to a subscriber station based, at least in part, on energy of the pilot signals received from the one or more base stations and to perform a handoff to the first base station if signals transmitted by the

subscriber station are received by the first base station with sufficient energy based in part on history of the reverse link power control commands received from the first base station.

50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 49 further comprising:

a memory to store information corresponding to the reverse link power control commands received from the one or more base stations.

51. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 50 wherein the processor determines whether it is necessary to perform handoff to the first base station and, if it is necessary to perform handoff to the first base station, permits handoff to the first base station if the signals transmitted by the subscriber station are received by the first base station with sufficient energy.

52. (Cancelled)

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 51 wherein, if the signals transmit by the subscriber station are not received by the first base station with sufficient energy, the processor inhibits the handoff to the first base station.

54. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 53 wherein the processor selects an alternative base station for transmission of forward link data to the subscriber station.

55. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 51 wherein, if it is not necessary to perform the handoff to the first base station, the processor determines whether a base station currently being used for transmission of forward link data to the subscriber station receives signals from the subscriber station with sufficient energy and performs a handoff to an alternative base station if the base station currently being used does not receive signals from the subscriber station with sufficient energy.

56. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 55 wherein the processor selects the alternative base station based on reverse link power control commands received from the

alternative base station indicating that signals transmitted by the subscriber station are received by the alternative base station with sufficient energy.

57. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 51 wherein the processor transmits a message indicating identity of the first base station.

58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the message further indicates a requested rate to transmit to the subscriber station.

59-68. (Cancelled)

69. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for performing handoff in a communication system, the apparatus comprising:

means for receiving, at a subscriber station, pilot signals and reverse link power control commands from one or more base stations;

means for selecting a first base station for transmission of forward link data to the subscriber station based, at least in part, on energy of the pilot signals received from the one or more base stations; and

means for performing a handoff to the first base station if signals transmitted by the subscriber station are received by the first base station with sufficient energy based in part on history of the reverse link power control commands received from the first base station.

70. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 69 further comprising:

means for storing information corresponding to the reverse link power control commands received from the one or more base stations.

71. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 69 further comprising:

means for determining whether it is necessary to perform the handoff to the first base station; and

means for permitting the handoff to the first base station, if it is necessary to perform the handoff and if the signals transmitted by the subscriber station are received by the first base station with sufficient energy.

72. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 71 further comprising:

means for inhibiting the handoff to the first base station, if the signals transmit by the subscriber station are not received by the first base station with sufficient energy.

73. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 71 further comprising:

means for determining, if it is not necessary to perform the handoff to the first base station, whether a base station currently being used for transmission of forward link data to the subscriber station receives signals from the subscriber station with sufficient energy; and

means for performing a handoff to an alternative base station, if the base station currently being used does not receive signals from the subscriber station with sufficient energy.

74. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 71 wherein the means for permitting the handoff to the first base station comprises:

means for transmitting a message indicating identity of the first base station.

75. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 74 wherein the message further indicates a requested rate to transmit to the subscriber station.

76-96. (Cancelled)